

Dear FCC:

It has come to my attention that Sinclair Broadcasting Group has decided to require its local television stations to run an anti-Kerry documentary shortly before the November 2 election. This is a blatant example of partisan abuse of the nation's public airwaves, and I think it is outrageous. Big media has no right to manipulate the public by airing politically biased programs without giving equal time to opposing viewpoints. Sinclair Broadcasting Group gets to use the public airwaves for free, and my understanding is that it is obligated by law to serve the public interest in return. In light of its planned abuse of its privilege, I do not believe Sinclair is keeping its end of the bargain. This is just one more example of fact that when large companies control the airwaves, democracy gets short shrift. Sinclair is now serving as a propaganda arm of the Republican party, and it is undermining the kind of open, balanced debate that we need more of--not less of--in this country. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them, and they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

Dan Silber
Lakeland, FL